(c) comparing the amount of expressed polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotides to a pre-determined cut off value, and therefrom determining the presence of ovarian cancer in the patient.

24. (New) A method for determining the presence of ovarian cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from a patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers, each primer comprising at least 10 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:214 or the complements thereof, in a reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are capable of amplifying an expressed polynucleotide sequence recited in SEQ ID NO:214; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of an expressed polynucleotide sequence that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotide primers;

(c) comparing the amount of expressed polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotides to a pre-determined cut off value, and therefrom determining the presence of ovarian cancer in the patient.

B2 Cont'd

Please cancel claims 14 and 19-21.

REMARKS

This amendment is provided in response to the final Office Action mailed November 14, 2002. Claims 22-24 are now in the case. Claims 14 and 19-21 have been cancelled.

Certain pending claims have been amended to expedite prosecution on certain preferred embodiments of the invention. It is urged that support for all the above amendments may be found throughout the specification as originally filed (see for example pages 33-35) and that none of the amendments constitute new matter. It should also be noted that the above amendments are not to be construed as acquiescence with regard to the Office's rejections. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any subject matter removed or modified by this amendment in a related divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application.

The status of the priority applications in the Cross Reference to Related Applications section has been amended to reflect the change in status of one of the applications.

In response to the Office's observation that the Oath and Declaration were not complete, an Application Data Sheet listing the mailing addresses and zip codes for the named inventors is provided herein.

The rejection of claims 14 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Office believes that the specification does not provide written description of the probes/primers encompassed by the claims.

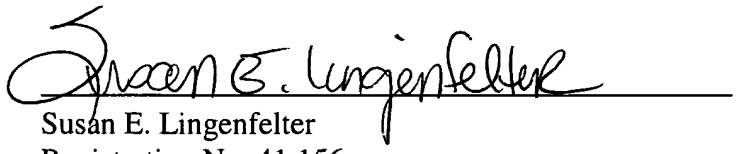
The Applicants respectfully traverse this ground for continued rejection. However, as discussed above, claims 14 and 19-21 have been cancelled and new claims 22-24 have been added. The newly added claims recite in part a probe consisting of at least 10 contiguous nucleotides of a sequence selected from the group consisting of: a) SEQ ID NO:199, b) SEQ ID NO:214, and c) the complements of a) and b), and primers comprising at least 10 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:199 or SEQ ID NO:214 or the complement thereof that are capable of amplifying a polynucleotide sequence recited in SEQ ID NO:199 or 214. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments and comments obviate and overcome the rejection and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **Appendix - Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

On the basis of the above amendments, Applicants believe that the above named Application is order for allowance. If for any reason the Office feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned at 206-754-5898 with any questions, concerns or suggestions pertaining to this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

CORIXA CORPORATION



Susan E. Lingenfelter
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Enclosures:
Postcard
Appendix (Version with Markings to Show Changes Made)
Application Data Sheet

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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Please delete the paragraph on page 1, at lines 5-13, and replace with the following paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/825,294, filed April 3, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/713,550, filed November 14, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of 09/656,668, filed September 7, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/640,173, filed August 15, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/561,778, filed May 1, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/394,374, filed September 10, 1999, now abandoned, each of which applications are incorporated by reference in their entirety herein.

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

22. (New) A method for determining the presence of ovarian cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from a patient with a probe consisting of at least 10 contiguous nucleotides of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

a) SEQ ID NO:199,

b) SEQ ID NO:214, and

c) the complements of a) and b);

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of an expressed polynucleotide that hybridizes to the probe under moderately stringent conditions; and

(c) comparing the amount of expressed polynucleotide that hybridizes to the probe to a predetermined cut-off value, and therefrom determining the presence of ovarian cancer in the patient.

23. (New) A method for determining the presence of ovarian cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from a patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers, each primer comprising at least 10 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:199 or the complement thereof, in a reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are capable of amplifying a polynucleotide sequence recited in SEQ ID NO:199; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of an expressed polynucleotide sequence that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotide primers;

(c) comparing the amount of expressed polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotides to a pre-determined cut off value, and therefrom determining the presence of ovarian cancer in the patient.

24. (New) A method for determining the presence of ovarian cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from a patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers, each primer comprising at least 10 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:214 or the complements thereof, in a reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are capable of amplifying an expressed polynucleotide sequence recited in SEQ ID NO:214; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of an expressed polynucleotide sequence that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotide primers;

(c) comparing the amount of expressed polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of said oligonucleotides to a pre-determined cut off value, and therefrom determining the presence of ovarian cancer in the patient.

Please cancel claims 14 and 19-21.